



5-4-04

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/822,901
	Filing Date	April 13, 2004
	First Named Inventor	J. Robertson et al.
	Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	5362-000489

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>Form HDP-1449; 1 Foreign Patent Document; 4 Other Documents</b>		
<table border="1"><tr><td>Remarks</td><td>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-0275. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</td></tr></table>			Remarks	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-0275. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Reg. No.
		Monte L. Falcoff	37,617
Signature			
Date	May 3, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Monte L. Falcoff	Express Mail Label No.	EV 406 075 555 US (5/3/2004)
Signature		Date	May 3, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

EV 406 075 555 US



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/822,901

Filing Date: April 13, 2004

Applicant: J. Robertson et al.

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title: STRUCTURAL REINFORCEMENT SYSTEM FOR AN  
AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE

Attorney Docket: 5362-000489

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Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

**I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION**

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

**II. COPIES**

A. \_\_\_\_ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cross-referenced pending U.S. application listed below in Section IV, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. \_\_\_\_ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. XXX Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

D. \_\_\_\_ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. If the International Search Report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g))

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. XXX Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. \_\_\_\_ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1. \_\_\_\_ See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application.
2. \_\_\_\_ English translations are provided.
3. \_\_\_\_ Other:

C. XXX The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration. The following patents are believed to be somewhat more relevant than the others: U.S. 5,788,322 (Wolf) and U.S. 1,694,546 (Lancia). Notwithstanding, however, the Examiner is respectfully requested to review all of the cited references and make his/her own relevancy determination.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. \_\_\_\_ The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does(do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.

Filing Date

Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. XXX 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check only one box)

1. XXX within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. \_\_\_\_ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. \_\_\_\_ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

4. \_\_\_\_ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. \_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. \_\_\_\_ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. \_\_\_\_ See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. \_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. \_\_\_\_ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A. \_\_\_\_ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F. R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or

B. \_\_\_\_ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. \_\_\_\_ Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

\_\_\_\_ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VIII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. \_\_\_\_ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.

B. \_\_\_\_ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0275 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

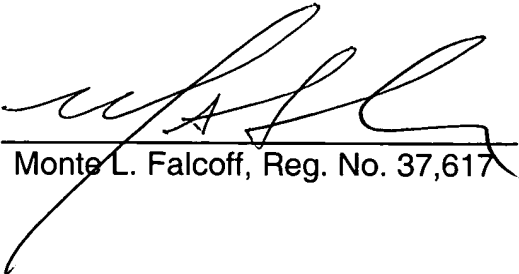
The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0275.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 50-0275.

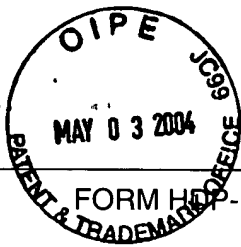
Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 3, 2004

By:   
Monte L. Falcoff, Reg. No. 37,617

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

MLF/cmg



FORM HD-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 4

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
5362-000489	10/822,901
APPLICANT	
J. Robertson et al.	
FILING DATE	GROUP
April 13, 2004	

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		2002/0195840	12/26/02	Mishima et al.		
2.		2002/0153749	10/24/02	Lee		
3.		2002/0145307	10/10/02	Fujita		
4.		2002/0057004	5/16/02	Corcoran et al.		
5.		2003/0034671	2/20/03	Streiff et al.		
6.		2001/0019216	9/6/01	Kobayashi		
7.		1,694,546	12/11/28	Lancia		
8.		1,794,465	3/3/31	Ledwinka		
9.		1,797,989	3/24/31	Ledwinka		
10.		2,370,211	2/27/45	Ulrich		
11.		2,751,247	6/19/56	Barenyi		
12.		3,021,172	2/13/62	Fiala et al.		
13.		3,328,935	7/4/67	Peras		
14.		4,230,361	10/28/80	Nachbur et al.		
15.		4,346,930	8/31/82	Northey		
16.		4,514,891	5/7/85	Draper		
17.		4,570,321	2/18/86	Draper		
18.		4,613,184	9/23/86	Rispeter et al.		
19.		4,662,052	5/5/87	Draper		
20.		4,729,156	3/8/88	Norris, Jr. et al.		
21.		4,892,350	1/9/90	Kijima		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</b>  <b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  Sheet 2 of 4	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL No.
	5362-000489	10/822,901
	APPLICANT	
	J. Robertson et al.	
	FILING DATE	GROUP
	April 13, 2004	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
22.		4,940,282	7/10/90	Townsend		
23.		4,944,553	7/31/90	Medley et al.		
24.		4,950,026	8/21/90	Emmons		
25.		4,968,087	11/6/90	Goria		
26.		5,018,780	5/28/91	Yoshii et al.		
27.		5,020,846	6/4/91	Bonnett		
28.		5,094,478	3/10/92	Pfanzeder et al.		
29.		5,110,176	5/5/92	Curtis		
30.		5,351,400	10/4/94	Samuel		
31.		5,435,618	7/25/95	Sacco et al.		
32.		5,575,531	11/19/96	Gauger et al.		
33.		5,577,797	11/26/96	Takanishi		
34.		5,641,194	6/24/97	Honma et al.		
35.		5,788,322	8/4/98	Wolf et al.		
36.		5,803,533	9/8/98	Schulz et al.		
37.		5,806,918	9/15/98	Kanazawa		
38.		5,921,618	7/13/99	Mori et al.		
39.		5,954,390	9/21/99	Kleinhoffer et al.		
40.		5,988,734	11/23/99	Longo et al.		
41.		6,007,145	12/28/99	Tezuka		

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
 (Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 3 of 4

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

5362-000489

SERIAL NO.

10/822,901

APPLICANT

J. Robertson et al.

FILING DATE

April 13, 2004

GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
42.		6,039,386	3/21/00	Hasshi et al.		
43.		6,053,567	4/25/00	Ito		
44.		6,126,232	10/3/00	Nakano		
45.		6,139,082	10/31/00	Davis, Jr. et al.		
46.		6,168,228	1/2/01	Hienz et al.		
47.		6,189,952	2/20/01	Schmidt et al.		
48.		6,237,991	5/29/01	Weber		
49.		6,270,153	8/7/01	Toyao et al.		
50.		6,273,498	8/14/01	Hillman et al.		
51.		6,296,301	10/2/01	Schroeder et al.		
52.		6,299,239	10/9/01	Sagawa et al.		
53.		6,299,240	10/9/01	Schroeder et al.		
54.		6,315,353	11/13/01	Brodt et al.		
55.		6,332,643	12/25/01	Sukegawa et al.		
56.		6,382,710	5/7/02	Funk et al.		
57.		6,434,907	8/20/02	Simboli		
58.		6,443,518	9/3/02	Rohl et al.		
59.		6,491,337	12/10/02	Averdick et al.		
60.		6,572,181	6/3/03	Jonsson		
61.		6,578,903	6/17/03	Ernst et al.		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<p>FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)</p> <p><b>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b></p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b></p> <p>(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> <p>Sheet 4 of 4</p>	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	5362-000489	10/822,901
	APPLICANT	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
62.		6,644,725	11/11/03	Braitmaier et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes No
1.		WO 02/096675	12/5/02	World Int. Property Org.		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	
1.		Photographs of 1942 Rolls-Royce, "Duchess" Fleetwood sedan with stationary roof (believed to have been offered for sale or publically used in 1942)
2.		Photographs of 1931 Series 355 7-passenger touring vehicle with convertible roof and four doors (believed to have been offered for sale or publically used in 1931)
3.		Photographs of 1941 Series Cadillac sixty-two convertible roof sedan (believed to have been offered for sale or publically used in 1941)
4.		G. Guzzardi and E. Rizzo, Convertibles - History and Evolution of Dream Cars (1998), 38 pages

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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